

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/821,831

Applicant(s)

GABL ET AL.

Examiner

Matthew O. Savage

Art Unit

1724

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the amendment filed on 3-13-06.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-6 and 8-11.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☒ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- (b) ☒ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

Matthew O Savage  
Primary Examiner  
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An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Clifford Kelly on 5-26-06.

1 (Currently amended): A screen comprising  
a plurality of rods, each of the rods having an embedded end and first and second side walls, [[at least one of the side walls]] said first side wall defining at least one protrusion and said second side wall defining at least two protrusions, each protrusion having an elliptic shape or a circular shape having a radius  $r$  of  $0.1 \text{ mm} < r < 2 \text{ mm}$ , all portions of each protrusion being positioned at a distance from the embedded end of the rod; and

at least one rod-bearing supporting element having a plurality of receptacles, each of the receptacles having an inner surface defining [[at least one]] recesses having a shape which is complementary to the protrusions of the rod;

wherein a portion of each rod is received within a receptacle and each protrusion of the rod is received within a recess of the supporting element whereby the rods and the at least one rod-bearing supporting element form a substantially planar screen mat

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[[and the inner surface of the receptacle defines a clearance angle  $\alpha$  having a value greater than zero with the second sidewall of the rod]].

2 (Currently amended): The screen according to claim 1 wherein [[at least one of the rods has a plurality of protrusions,]] the protrusions [[being]] are positioned at a distance  $h_1$  from the imbedded end of the rod, wherein  $0.1 \text{ mm} < h_1 < 6 \text{ mm}$ .

4 (Currently Amended): The screen according to claim 1 wherein [[the first and second sidewalls each have at least one protrusion,]] the first sidewall [[having]] has a different number of protrusions than the second side wall.

8 (Currently Amended): The screen according to claim 1 wherein the inner surface of the receptacle defines a clearance angle  $\alpha$  [[has]] with the second side wall of the rod having a value of one to ten degrees.

9 (Currently Amended): The screen according to claim [[1]] 8 wherein clearance angle  $\alpha$  has a value of two to five degrees.

10 (Currently Amended): The screen according to claim [[1]] 8 wherein clearance angle  $\alpha$  has a value substantially equal to five degrees.

11 (Currently Amended): A cylindrical screen basket comprising:

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at least one rod-bearing supporting element having a plurality of receptacles, each of the receptacles having an inner surface defining [[at least one]] a plurality of recesses, the at least one rod-bearing supporting element being rolled to define a substantially circular shape such that said receptacles face an interior of said circular shape; and

a plurality of rods, each of the rods having an embedded end and first and second side walls, [[at least one of the side walls]] said first side wall defining at least one protrusion and said second side wall defining at least two protrusions, each protrusion having an elliptic shape or a circular shape having a radius  $r$  of  $0.1 \text{ mm} < r < 2 \text{ mm}$ , all portions of each protrusion being positioned at a distance from the embedded end of the rod;

wherein a portion of each rod is received within a receptacle and each protrusion of the rod is received within a recess of the supporting element whereby the rods and the at least one rod-bearing supporting element form a substantially cylindrical screen basket.

On line 6 of page 1 of the specification, -- , now abandoned -- has been inserted after "2001".

The first paragraph beginning at page 4, line 2 of the specification has been amended as follows:

-- Figure 1 illustrates an example of three rods 1, mounted in supporting elements 2. The right-hand rod 1 shows that it has several protrusions 3 with a radius  $r$  on both side walls. The supporting element contains recesses 4 with exact inverse shaping and the necessary clearance distances in relation to the screen basket diameter. The present illustration shows two protrusions and two recesses on each side, however there can also be three or more such protrusions and recesses if necessary. The number of protrusions on either side may also differ. For example, a first side wall of the rod can define at least one protrusion and a second side wall of the rod can define at least two protrusions as in the case of the left-hand rod of FIG. 1. These protrusions with a circular or elliptical segment shape have a radius  $r$  of which  $0.1 \text{ mm} < r < 2 \text{ mm}$  applies. The rods can be inserted easily, whereby the circular or elliptical formed protrusions lead to a more even area pressure and therefore to a good fixed correction with the supporting elements. --.

The paragraph beginning at page 4, line 29 has been amended as follows:

-- The ~~[[indentations]]~~ the inner surface of the receptacle provided in the supporting element 2 to hold the rod 1 can have clearance with the side wall of the rod equivalent to the angle  $\alpha$ . With the cylindrical shape of the screen basket this avoids plastic deformation in the supporting element 2. Clearance angle  $\alpha$  has a value of one to ten degrees, preferably two to five degrees. Most commonly, clearance angle  $\alpha$  has a value of about five degrees. --.

Line 23 of page 5 of the specification has been rewritten as follows:

-- screen mat is then rolled into a cylindrical screen basket such that the receptacles face an interior of the cylindrical screen basket, the clamping effect is --.

The following changes to the drawings have been approved by the examiner and agreed upon by applicant: A new FIG. 3 must be added showing a cylindrical screen having support elements and rods arranged as shown in FIG. 1 with exposed portions of the rods facing an interior of the cylindrical screen. It is noted that the previous new FIG. 3 submitted on 3-13-06 was denied entry by the examiner as incorporating new matter since the support members and rods were improperly drawn and because the drawing was labeled "Replacement Sheet" which was improper. Applicant must label the new FIG. 3 as "New Figure" in the upper margin of the sheet. In order to avoid abandonment of the application, applicant must make these above agreed upon drawing changes.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

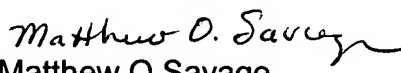
The prior art fails to teach or suggest the limitations of the rods having a first side wall defining at least one protrusion and a second sidewall defining at least two protrusions as recited in instant claims 1 and 11.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably

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accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Matthew O. Savage whose telephone number is (571) 272-1146. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 7:00am-3:30pm.

  
Matthew O Savage  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 1724

mos  
May 26, 2006

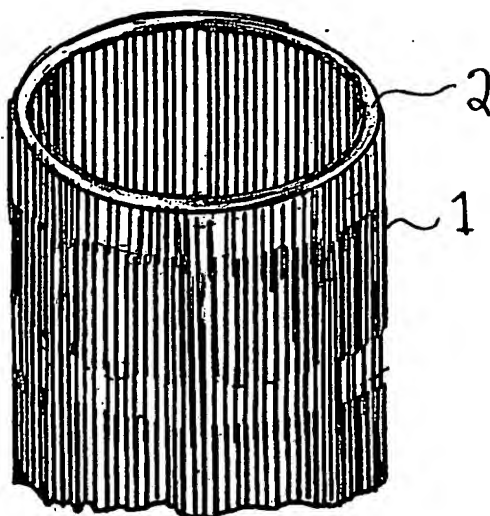


Fig 1

OKay to enter. ms



Do not enter.  
mg



**Fig. 3**